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MAHATHIR-CONFIDENT  
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KOTA BAHARU: JULY 31 (BERNAMA) -- DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR MOHAMAD SAID TODAY THE BARISAN NASIONAL WILL BE RETURNED TO POWER IN KELANTAN WITH A TWO-THIRD MAJORITY IF ALL ITS COMPONENT PARTIES WORK HARDER.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THAT BASED ON REPORTS RECEIVED FROM HIS DEPUTY, ENCIK GHAFAR BABA, AND KELANTAN MENTERI BESAR DATUK HAJI MOHAMED YAACOB, HE WAS CONFIDENT OF A RESOUNDING BN VICTORY IN THE STATE.

HE WAS SPEAKING TO BN ELECTION WORKERS HERE.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR, WHO IS ALSO BN CHAIRMAN AND UMNO PRESIDENT, URGED BN ELECTION WORKERS, PARTICULARLY THOSE FROM UMNO, TO WORK HARDER AND CONCENTRATE THEIR EFFORTS IN PAS STRONGHOLDS.

THEY SHOULD WORK FOR THE INTERESTS OF THE PARTY AND NOT THOSE OF CANDIDATES OR INDIVIDUALS, HE SAID.

HE ADVISED THEM NOT TO GIVE UP IN THEIR EFFORTS TO WOO THE VOTERS IN PAS STRONGHOLDS BECAUSE +OUR VICTORY IS IN THE INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE AND NOT INDIVIDUALS.+ -- MORE

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HE SAID IT WOULD BE MEANINGLESS IF INDIVIDUAL CANDIDATES WON BUT THE PARTY ON THE WHOLE LOST THE ELECTION AND BECAME AN OPPOSITION IN STATE ASSEMBLIES OR PARLIAMENT.

THE PRIME MINISTER SAID THE 18-YEAR PERIOD IN WHICH THE ALLIANCE/BN WAS IN THE OPPOSITION IN KELANTAN DID NOT BRING BENEFIT TO THE PEOPLE ON THE WHOLE.

IF THE BN SECURED SUFFICIENT SEATS TO FORM THE GOVERNMENT, THE PEOPLE, INCLUDING THE BN ELECTION WORKERS, WOULD BENEFIT, HE SAID.

THE BN STRUGGLED FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE PEOPLE AND NOT THAT OF THE INDIVIDUAL.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ADVISED THOSE NOT SELECTED TO STAND IN THE ELECTION TO CONTINUE SERVING THE PARTY AND VOLUNTARILY HELP BN IN ITS CAMPAIGN. -- MORE

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HE SAID IT WAS NOT IMPORTANT WHO WAS CHOSEN AS CANDIDATE BECAUSE IT WAS THE PARTY WHICH FORMULATED THE POLICIES.

AN ELECTED REPRESENTATIVE, HOWEVER RICH HE WAS, WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO CARRY OUT DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS COSTING MILLIONS OF RINGGIT FOR THE PEOPLE, HE SAID.

DATUK SERI DR MAHATHIR ALSO URGED MEMBERS OF MCA, MIC AND HAMIM TO SUPPORT BN CANDIDATES EVEN THOUGH THERE MIGHT BE NOMINEES FROM THEIR PARTIES WHO WERE NOT CHOSEN TO CONTEST.

HE SAID BN COMPONENT PARTIES SHOULD HELP ONE ANOTHER TO ENSURE THE VICTORY OF CANDIDATES FROM THE COALITION.

THE PRIME MINISTER ALSO REMINDED CANDIDATES WHO WON IN THE ELECTION NOT TO NEGLECT THE VOTERS WHO MADE POSSIBLE THEIR VICTORY.

THEY SHOULD VISIT THEIR CONSTITUENCIES OFTEN AND DISCHARGE THEIR RESPONSIBILITIES EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY. -- BERNAMA

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